

NEWS LETTER

OF THE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA

No. 22

Chapel Hill, N. C.

November, 1950

Announcement of the

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

Raleigh

November 30, 1950

3:00 P. M.

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Archaeological Society of North Carolina will be held in the Virginia Dare Ball Room of the Hotel Sir Walter on Thursday, November 30, 1950.

PROGRAM

Recent Developments in American Colonial Archaeology by
J. C. Harrington, National Park Service

The Restoration Program at Town Creek Indian Village by
Barton Wright, Division of State Parks

Excavations At Kolomaki State Park, Georgia by
William Sears, University of Georgia

BUSINESS MEETING

OFFICERS

President	- - - -	C. C. Crittenden Dept. of Archives and History Raleigh
Vice-President	- - - -	Mrs. Charles A. Cannon Box 946 Concord
Secretary-Treasurer	- - - -	Harry T. Davis State Museum Raleigh
Editor	- - - -	Joffre L. Coe Box 561 Chapel Hill

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FALL ISSUE
OF THE
SOUTHERN INDIAN STUDIES
VOL. II, NO. 2

The Editor regrets that circumstances beyond his control have delayed the publication of the fall issue of the Southern Indian Studies. This issue is now in press, however, and will be mailed as soon as possible.

SOUTHERN INDIAN STUDIES

Vol. II

October, 1950

No. 2

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War and the Eastern Cherokee William W. Wood, Jr.

Nununyi, the Kituhwas; or Mountain Indians
and the State of North Carolina H. C. Wilburn

Photography as an Aid to Archaeology..... George E. Fay

A New Book Worth Reading:

The Individual vs the Cultural System
White: The Science of Man

THE ORGANIZATION AND AIMS OF THE EASTERN STATES
ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

The Eastern States Archaeological Federation traces its inception to the recognition of a need for interstate cooperation in the field of archeological research. In 1933 members of four state societies (Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania) met for the purpose of discussing this problem and, being impressed by the advantages to scientific advancement, agreed to provide for a continuation of such meetings under the name of the Northeastern States Conference of Archeological Societies. At the meeting held in Philadelphia in February, 1934, the reports of the several societies clearly and impressively indicated not only an enthusiastic response from existing societies but a desire on the part of groups of individuals in other states to organize their archeological activities and to participate in future conferences. The cohesion of interest among the archeologists of the eastern states was a self-evident force which found natural expression in the creation at that time of the Eastern States Archeological Federation, the constitution of which was adopted a year later on February 23, 1935 at the meeting in Rochester, New York. Seven state societies (Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania) participated in this formation of the Federation.

One of the first aims of the Federation was to encourage the establishment of other state archeological societies. The result has been astonishingly successful, so that today we can look forward to fulfillment of this purpose. The third article of the constitution declares that "the membership of this Federation shall be limited to the organized state archeological societies of the eastern states". On the basis of natural geographic considerations and the practical limitations of meeting together, as well as the continuity of the sphere of our research, it has been the general consensus of opinion that the "eastern states" shall be construed to include those which have an Atlantic watershed. This gives a possible total of seventeen states, of which sixteen have become affiliated with the Federation. To the seven original state societies have been added organizations in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, and Florida, leaving only South Carolina without some history of participation in the Federation. However, the societies in Vermont, Maryland, and Georgia have become inactive since the war, and it is on these states, as well as on South Carolina, that the Federation is now concentrating its efforts.

The aim of "interstate cooperation in the field of archeological research," which appears in article 2 of the constitution, is being met in a number of different ways. The annual meeting in the autumn of each year is bringing together an increasing number of the members from the several states who find the opportunity a profitable one for presenting papers on the archeological research

recently undertaken in the East and for personally sharing ideas and criticism which might not otherwise be disseminated. The natural cohesion of interest within the limited area of the Atlantic seaboard results in a stimulus which might well be the envy of organizations of less concentrated scope. The exhibits committee, concentrating on first one aspect of archeology and then another, is bringing about a visual realization of the range of similarities and differences in the artifacts to be found in the eastern United States. The desirability of such activities need only to be stated to gain appreciation.

Despite the Federation's policy of rotating the place of meeting, many members of affiliated societies are unable to attend. For their benefit, the Federation has instituted a yearly Bulletin, which contains the minutes of each meeting, the reports of the societies on their activities, and abstracts of the papers presented. These Bulletins are sent to the affiliated societies for free distribution to their members as a means of further disseminating knowledge of the activities and particularly of the results of research in the various states.

An important aim of the Federation, as stated in its constitution, is to foster the pursuit of research, publication, and public education by the state societies. For the most part, it has seemed logical that the Federation act only as an agency to promote and coordinate such activities among its constituent societies. An example can be cited in the case of the research committee, which has attempted to stimulate the development of several kinds of studies in the societies which did not already conduct them, such as site surveys and, most recently, ceramic classification. In the latter field, the Federation has just arranged to send to the state societies, for free distribution to their members, reprints of an article on pottery types by two members of the New York association, in the expectation that this article will serve both as a source and as an inspiration for further work of the same kind.

Some projects, on the other hand, the Federation seems particularly fitted by the nature of its constitution to carry through itself. Objectives which extend beyond the province of any one state present a need which the Federation must meet. An excellent illustration is the collaborative bibliography of the archaeology of the eastern United States, which was recently made available to the members of the affiliated societies for a nominal fee in order to provide references to the source materials on the whole area. Another project being sponsored is a definitive list of the accessible repositories of archeological material in the eastern states, which is in preparation by a member of the Massachusetts society.

Except in the case of such interstate activities as these, the Federation limits itself to its main function as a coordinating agency. To insure that it does not overstep this limit, its Executive Committee, which directs the affairs of the Federation,

has been constituted that a majority of the members consist of the vice-presidents, who are chosen by the constituent societies. The decisions of the Executive Board, as a result, reflect directly the wishes of the individual societies.

From its original small beginning the Federation has grown to a group which now includes 12 state societies with a total membership of over 1900. The Executive Committee, wishing to make certain that the Federation serves these societies in the best possible way, within the scope of its ideals, invites criticism and suggestions. Response will be most welcome and may be sent directly to the President of the Federation.

Irving Rouse, President
Yale Peabody Museum
New Haven, Conn.
November 20, 1949*

*This statement is a revision of one prepared by a former President of the Federation, Cornelius Osgood, in 1940 on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the founding of the Federation.

NOTE: If you have overlooked paying your 1950 dues, please send them in now to insure delivery of this issue of your Southern Indian Studies.